



Carol
Campbell/R8/USEPA/US
05/22/2009 09:50 AM

To "Penney Trujillo" <Trujillo.Penney@epamail.epa.gov>
cc
bcc
Subject Fw: KTVQ TV: Grant helping Libby asbestos victims

Libby Health
case
MT SF B73

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Sent by EPA Wireless E-Mail Services
Wendy Chipp

----- Original Message -----

From: Wendy Chipp
Sent: 05/22/2009 08:52 AM MDT
Subject: KTVQ TV: Grant helping Libby asbestos victims

Grant helping Libby asbestos victims (KTVQ TV)

Posted: May 21, 2009 06:54 PM EDT
Updated: May 21, 2009 07:00 PM EDT

A federal grant is on its way Libby to provide health care for people with asbestos-related illnesses.

Montana Senator Max Baucus says the \$6 million grant from Health and Human Services could be the first step toward declaring a public health emergency in the asbestos-contaminated town.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency declared the area a Superfund site, but has not declared a public health emergency.

HHS is slated to announce the grant opportunity for the Lincoln County Health Department on Friday, and a consortium of at least three health care entities to provide screenings and health care services to people battling asbestos-related illnesses.

Baucus says he's been fighting hard for Libby residents and is pleased with this announcement.

"I've been so upset with WR Grace, so upset with prior administrations," Baucus said. "They've done some of the on the job cleanup but they didn't do the job in terms of medical care. This administration is finally going to do it."

Baucus added that if a public health emergency is declared, the Federal Government would be required to provide health care to Libby residents with asbestos-related disease.